

## Senate Public Assembly: (09/20/23)

### I. Call to order 12:06

### II. Introductions

- a. President - Michael Engstrom
- b. Public Relations Coordinator - Tiffany-Jo Hedican
- c. Secretary - Zachary Callahan

#### Attendees:

Hayden Cordell nv2191ub

Lyle hoffmeister th1553vi

Joe Bettner y67432pg

Haley Christensen nj5821la

Lina sadeddin hg2338ct

Cecilia Labelle fc1105tx

Theron J lk4521xh

Dann Grover cm1788gs

Aaron Mcterland BK2637LB

Carmen Mattingly jh7242hc

Hanna Daud gm8199ry

DJ Davidson JF1483vv

Roman Johnson de4477ve

Emily Burke xy1157wp

Relonda Love ux 7176rz

Jonathan Aldove

Lucky Perryman

Taylor Oswald kb7967rl

Avery hawes lp2113tf

### III. Special Guest

- a. Cara Garrett Two things to share with the Senate: First being that the blue line light rail is expanding and will come through Brooklyn Park – current line goes to north Hennepin but not Hennepin tech. Cara has been working with the county to put areas students live on “heat maps” to indicate ease of transportation. Next step is for Hennepin county to come in and do interviews with students, will be at the next food distribution, starting at around 1-till 4 ish. They will be compensating students involved in interviews with a \$30 gift card – Hennepin county have put aside money for a student coordinator – to set up and aid in getting students to come do interviews, perhaps a senate member? \$25 an hour. Final review will go up on the website and information will be shared with the senate.

Secondly – last year when the annual survey was conducted, the second free food distribution was asked for and formed. It was an auspicious time for this to happen. Manpower for the second food distribution has been severely lacking – HTC has carried the brunt of the work necessary. Also a woman who was a key component in the food

distribution has changed positions and is no longer involved. We are heading towards a single free food distribution per month at both HTC campuses, as well as a food pantry on campus (development on which is moving quickly).

Relonda asks that if we move down to one per month – will it be more strict when it comes to the “first come first serve” mentality that many of the attendees seem to have – many comers end up picking what’s left on the bones rather than receiving an equitable portion as those who were the first in line.

Cara – no major changes to the overall distribution or how it runs are planned – Moved to the sign in, asking comers to take one or two items, We are not going to ask people to not take food. Many who come to the food distribution are in dire need of what is provided – We can ask good in the hood for more food, but not interested in asking people not to take what they feel they need.

Michael asks how we are expecting to employ or “man” the food pantry if we are short on manpower for the food distribution –

Cara- has been very specifically and intentionally told that a full-time person should be hired on to work the food pantry. As we’re getting back to a more productive time in comparison to 2020 things are shifting around –

Michael – is it possible to keep the second food distribution as well as the food pantry?

Cara – The idea is to have such a well run food pantry that the second food distribution will not be needed.

Tiffany-jo will the food pantry be open to the public in the same way the distributions are?

Cara- that is not yet clear, unsure. Perhaps Pang and Stephen can clarify.

Zack apologizes for the senate being unable to participate in the distributions as much as they would like to be.

Cara has shared her concerns about what it means to end a service (the second distribution) that is so helpful to so many people.

Relonda – Informs her BREA members that it is required for them to participate in community service, BREA is deeply invested in keeping the second distribution going.

Cara – would love to further speak with BREA about what is possible towards that end, offers to have a separate conversation with Relonda. Asks for BREA to reach out to them.

John asks if the pantry will be open to the community –

Cara- Its unclear as of now – Joy is committed to the food pantry, but the decision about public access so far as we know has not been made yet.

Stephen – they are going over different models and how the vendors will work with us – a determination has not yet been made –

Michael – Are you the best person to speak to for hiring the right person for the food pantry?

Cara- Perhaps an invitation to Joy or a letter to Joy about this issue. Leann as well perhaps. Likely dependent on funding allocation. Good idea to invite Joy or Leann to a meeting – or reach out to them.

Cara – Please help us coordinate for the blue line please let Pang know.

- b. Stephen Harper Two things: As of yesterday Hennepin tech was approved for basic needs funding of \$58,575
- Mental health first aid last year was funded with this money, We are open to other alternatives if anyone has an idea for this money, stipends for volunteers for the food pantry etc, proposal is due by the middle of October, No new staff members – one time lump sum.**
- Michael asks since Stephen might know some things about the food pantry – How can we “make the space”**
- Stephen – members from the foundation are going to be purchasing most if not all of the set up for the food pantry, but students and school staff will be required to run the food pantry operation. It would be super helpful to hear our ideas by the next public assembly.**
- Michael is deeply interested in the blue line issue,**
- Stephen – transportation is a big issue on campus.**
- Stephen – thing #2, on October 16<sup>th</sup>, Chancellor Scott Olson will be coming to give his state of the MNstate address about where we are in MNstate and what we are doing – A historic amount of money was awarded and went towards work-force development and he will be coming to highlight that work – Brooklyn park will be the hub for everything related to Minnesota state colleges for three days, the board of trustees will be doing all their board meetings in the cafeteria. We would love to highlight all the amazing students on campus and what they are interested in. We need a student speaker to introduce Scott Olson – A student who can speak to the ability HTC has given them to advance their career or skillset. People get lost on this campus, we will have a lot of lost people in suits not knowing where to go – Looking for volunteers for Monday as guides on campus for our VIP visitors.**
- Paul – Monday Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, but for three days?**
- Stephen – Hopefully after the first day with guides they will know how to get around. They generally will be pulling people and asking them about their experiences here on campus. (most likely)**
- Paul – cant speak directly for the club but it may be an opportunity for Hands on Ink to make “can I help you shirts” or something to that effect for student guides.**
- Stephen – fond of this idea – would like to connect about that with HOI**
- 12:54 Michael motions to sponsor the SET events – Emmanuel seconds open for discussion**
- Carmen says that in all her time here this has been the most she has seen people invested in vibrant life on campus –**

**Vote commences – Vote is unanimous – need a monetary value \_\_\_\_\_**

**Relonda volunteers BREA to help with SET-Tober –**

**Theron has spoken with his employers about supplying Pumpkins**

**MEDIASTORM – volunteers to perhaps record our events for future fundraising, dance, dinner, haunted maze.**

**Michael Motions to adjourned – Tiffany-Jo seconds,  
1:06 meeting adjourned!**

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

**V. Approval of Minutes**

**VI. Reports → Club reports**

**Hayley Christianson with the new culinary club – First meeting last week, newly reformed – looking for officers still, planning on collab with Senate/SET/or PTK, Horticulture Canning classes? SET is doing Halloween events, plans to collaborate with them for that – cake shop, cake judging for Halloween.**

**Media storm had their first meeting last week and elected officers – Patrick is treasurer, Abraham is secretary, next week will be deciding on which projects, short films?**

**Photosynthesizers – had 10 attendees to the meeting last week – another meeting today, working on our community service right now**

**VP of BREA DJ – Culture and conversations tomorrow during the day, theme around Ugandan culture through food – absolutely delicious – Reserve a spot with chef dennis – only seating thirty –**

**Member of SET DJ would like to elaborate on SET plans for October – Hennepin technical college Halloween fest – Would like senate funding to aid in the grandeur of the upcoming events – their budget is limited, so senate funds would be greatly appreciated. Murder mystery dinner, Dance, on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> hoping to have a haunted maze – plan to use culinary downstairs and have a whole haunted set-up, and perhaps an outside continuation.**

**Auto-club just had their first meeting -**

**VII. Old Business:**

- a. ~~Smash Bros. Tournament in November (Preliminary meeting to formulate/go over rules of the tournament with participants)~~
- b. **Monster Energy in the bookstore – Let us know what type you want.**

**VIII. New business:**

- a. Scholarships are now open, apply now!
- b. ~~Voter Registration!~~

**IX. Announcements:**

- a. Swearing in of new officers  
1:01 –  
1:03 puttin the pins on em.

New Treasurer – Taylor Oswald  
New Vice President – Emmanuel Bewaji